

INL News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Feb. 6, 2009

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Teri Ehresman, 208 520-6252, teri.ehresman@inl.gov

Nam Dinh named INL Fellow

A nuclear safety engineer with over 20 years of research and development experience has been selected as an Idaho National Laboratory Fellow.

Nam Truc Dinh, Ph.D., has joined the elite ranks held by only eight others at the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory. The designation of Laboratory Fellow is the top scientific achievement designation and recognizes an individual's outstanding contributions to the scientific and engineering community.

He was nominated for the award by Ronaldo Szilard, Ph.D., director of Nuclear Science and Engineering at INL. "Dinh is a world-class engineering scientist who is widely known in the nuclear and mechanical engineering communities," he said. Szilard also noted Dinh has made significant impact on the resolution of several safety issues in Light Water Reactor (LWR) safety and played a principal role in the severe accident treatment and passive safety design in the GE-Hitachi's Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor plant design.

Prior to joining the INL in March 2008, Dinh was a Chair Professor of Nuclear Power Safety at the Royal Institute of Technology, the premier technical university in Sweden. He directed the Division of Nuclear Power Safety at the university.

"I am really honored by the trust and confidence INL colleagues and management have placed in me in selecting me for this honor," Dinh said. "I came to Idaho and the INL because the Laboratory has its mission to lead the nuclear renaissance. The future is happening here because of the high caliber of people at this Laboratory. I wanted to be part of this future."

At INL, Dinh is the technical lead for the "Risk-Informed Safety Margin Characterization" pathway in the U.S. Department of Energy's Light Water Reactor Sustainability Program Technical Integration Office. He is the academic dean for the Modeling Experimentation and Validation Summer School scheduled this July in Idaho Falls.

In 1994, at the age of 29, Dinh was the youngest person to receive a Doctor of Science degree (the highest academic degree possible in Russia) from the Moscow Power Engineering Institute. He received a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the same Russian technical university in 1991.

The others previously selected as INL Fellows are William Apel, James Delmore, J. Stephen Herring, Paul Meakin, David Petti, Herschel Smartt, Terry Todd and Dieter Wolf.

A candidate for Laboratory Fellow is recommended by the employee's manager to the Fellows Promotion committee, which reviews detailed promotion packages. The packages include data on individual contributions, professional achievements, leadership positions held in technical organizations, letters of recommendation and an evaluation of the person's overall impact. Selection as an INL Laboratory Fellow equates to being named to an endowed chair at a major university, an elite member of a professional society or a member of a national academy.

INL-09-005

[News Release Archive](#)